

# The County of Centre

## PROCLAMATION

### PROCLAMATION NO 1 OF 2016

**WHEREAS**, in every State across our Nation, stalking is a crime; and

**WHEREAS**, stalking is unacceptable behavior that violates the most basic principles of respect and decency, infringing on our fundamental right to feel safe and secure; and

**WHEREAS**, at some point in their lives, 1 in 6 American women will be stalked; and

**WHEREAS**, while young women are disproportionately at risk, anyone can be a victim, including children and men; and

**WHEREAS**, stalking is a pattern of unwanted contact -- which can include text messages, emails, and phone calls -- that causes an individual to fear for their safety or the safety of loved ones; and

**WHEREAS**, individuals who are stalked often know the perpetrator, but stalkers can also be acquaintances or strangers; and

**WHEREAS**, many stalking victims are forced to protect themselves by relocating, changing their identities, changing jobs, and obtaining protection orders; and

**WHEREAS**, the Centre County Women's Resource Center is urging Centre County residents to recognize the signs of stalking, acknowledge stalking as a serious crime, and urges those affected by stalking not to be afraid to speak out or ask for help.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Centre County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim January 2016 as "**Stalking Awareness Month**" in Centre County and extend our support to all those who have experienced stalking, and strive to create a community that is secure and supportive for all Centre County residents.

**ADOPTED** this 5th day of January 2016



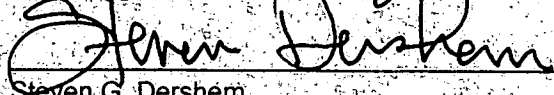
ATTEST

  
Denise L. Elbell, Acting Administrator  
Director of Financial Management

CENTRE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

  
Michael Pipe, Chair

  
Mark Higgins, Vice Chair

  
Steven G. Dershem